

DRAFT - September 1, 1998

SUMMARY OF STAGE 1 ASSURANCE TOOLS, MECHANISMS AND PROCESSES

Many of the Stage 1 actions when linked and integrated with other Stage 1 actions provide assurances of implementation. In other cases, external assurances, such as legislation, regulations, or contracts will be needed to provide assurances of implementation.

Assurances must deal with program wide issues as well as element specific issues.

Some of the program wide assurance issues are:

- Program oversight and agency/stakeholder coordination
- Protection of water rights and area of origin priorities
- Protection of environmental baselines conditions
- CVP and SWP operations criteria.
- Financing and cost sharing agreements
- Monitoring and research program and adaptive management

Assurances which are more specifically related to program elements are summarized below with the method of provision shown in (...).

Water Transfer Policy -

- Water Transfer Information Clearinghouse (Legislation)
- Policy decision by CALFED agencies on transfer rules (CALFED agencies)
- Linkage to water use efficiency and facilities (CALFED Program)

Water Use Efficiency -

- Financial assistance for technical support programs (Legislation needed?)
- Certification process for water management plans (Stakeholder agreement)
- Linkage to funding and facilities (Program)
- Mandatory conservation plans if necessary (Legislation)

Levees and Channels -

Funding for PL 84-99 standards (Legislation)

Improvements to emergency response system (CALFED agencies)

Linkage to ERP (Program)

ESA "Safe harbor" for levee maintenance (Conservation strategy; agreements)

Ecosystem Restoration Program -

New entity for ERP management (Agreements; legislation)

Reliable funding outside of appropriations (Agency/stakeholder agreement)

Scientific review/peer review process (Program)

Objective performance measures (Agreements; program)

Linkage to levees and facilities (Program)

Water Quality -

Appropriate mix of funding (Agreements; legislation)

Watershed Management -

Funding for local projects (Agreements; legislation)

Water Supply Reliability/Storage and Conveyance Facilities -

"No surprises"/regulatory certainty for agreed upon period of time (Agreements)

Planning and permitting process for new facilities (Agreements)

Linkage to long term ERP funding (Program)

Operations criteria (Agreements; possible revisions to WQCP)

Water rights protection/area of origin protection (Agreements; possible legislation)